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Parties Commendably Close Ranks In Aftermath of Fiasco in Cuba

The joint determination by leaders of both political parties to close ranks as the result of the Cuban liberation movement fiasco is a heartening thing, for leaders of both parties, past and present, were involved in this affair which terminated so unfortunately for American prestige.

It appears that the Democrats ran into difficulty trying to defend the decisions which were shown to be so insufficient,

and the Republicans ran into similar difficulty in finding something tangible to criticize that would not involve the preceding administration.

CASTRO MEANWHILE is in greater power than ever before, and this country has lost, in world opinion, much respect of its own.

The Central Intelligence Agency appears to be getting most of the blame for the failure to succeed of the patriots' revolt against Castro and the Soviet direction of that unhappy country.

Naval intelligence also is involved in this affair. The Pentagon checking system for reducing the chances of error failed to operate. Both Allen Dulles of the CIA and Admiral Arleigh Burke, head of naval operations, are very much on the defensive.

It is impossible as yet to estimate the damage done by failing to go all the way instead of part of the way. Our attempts to avoid war while trying to oust communism from this hemisphere produced an imbalance impossible of obtaining our objective.

RECURRING TO MIND is the comparable episode in which the Eisenhower administration became so displeased with the British and French attack on Egypt to save the Suez Canal as to cause these nations to abandon the effort.

Had that operation been allowed to succeed, much of the West's troubles in the Middle East, troubles which stem from Nasser and the Soviet support of him, would be resolved. The shoe we put on the foot of Britain and France now is tightly fitted to our own.

A general overhaul of the intelligence service is very much in order.